

**James Madison, James Taylor, et al, Committee of Orange County to Patrick Henry and the Gentlemen Independents of Hanover, May, 1775. Proceedings. Transcription: The Writings of James Madison, ed. Gaillard Hunt. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1900-1910.**

**ADDRESS "TO CAPTAIN PATRICK HENRY AND THE GENTLEMEN INDEPENDENTS OF HANOVER.<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> From Rives' *Life of Madison*. Madison was without doubt, Rives says, the author of the address.—Rives, i., 94, 95.

May 9, 1775.

“ Gentlemen: We, the committee for the county of Orange, having been fully informed of your seasonable and spirited proceedings in procuring a compensation for the powder fraudulently taken from the country magazine by command of Lord Dunmore, and which it evidently appears his lordship, notwithstanding his assurances, had no intention to restore, entreat you to accept their cordial thanks for this testimony of your zeal for the honor and interest of your country, We take this opportunity also to give it as our opinion that the blow struck in the Massachusetts government is a hostile attack on this and ever other Colony, and a sufficient warrant to use violence and reprisal in all cases in which it may be for our security and welfare.

“ James Madison, Chairman.

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James Taylor,

Zachariah Burnley,

James Madison, Jr.,

James Walker,

Henry Scott,

Thomas Barbour,

Rowland Thomas,

William Moore,

Lawrence Taliaferro,

Thomas Bell.”